

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

In the outstanding Office Action, claims 6, 14, and 15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Streck, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,916,532, hereinafter "Streck") in view of Lownes, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,137,539, hereinafter "Lownes"). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection, as follows.

Claim 15 recites, in part:

a message signal outputting section for outputting a message signal for displaying a selecting state of said selector subsection on the second television receiver, to transmit the message signal through said radio-transmitter section to said slave terminal, the message signal indicating that the image signal is prevented from being transmitted when the selector subsection is switched to send the image signal from said second tuner section to the picture-recording device.

The Office Action admits that Streck fails to disclose the above features of claim 15. Lownes is cited as curing this deficiency by disclosing a VCR control menu 500 or status display 600 displayed on a display device 98 in response to commands received from a digital VCR 113.

In Lownes, when a record command is entered by a user, the message "RECORD" is displayed on the display panel. The Office Action asserts that by displaying a message such as "RECORD" on the display panel, Lownes cures the admitted deficiency of Streck.

Applicant respectfully submits that neither Streck nor Lownes discloses or suggests a message signal outputting section for outputting a message signal for displaying a selecting state of said selector subsection on the second television receiver, to transmit the message signal through said radio-transmitter section to said slave terminal, the message signal indicating that the image signal is prevented from being transmitted when the selector subsection is switched to send the image signal from said second tuner section to the picture-recording device, as recited in claim 15, for at least the following reasons:

First, in Lownes, one receiver receives one transmission from a cable television provider. Lownes neither discloses nor suggests a selector subsection or a second receiver on which a selecting state of the selector subsection is displayed.

Second, Lownes is directed to a set top box connected to a digital VCR and a display device through a wired IEEE 1394 connection. The menu or status display of Lownes is generated by an on-screen-display processor 123, and is transmitted via the IEEE 1394 link. Lownes neither discloses nor suggests a radio-transmitter section through which a message signal for displaying the selecting state of the selector subsection is transmitted.

Third, the message displayed on the display device of Lownes merely displays a menu for selecting a state of a digital VCR, or the current state of the digital VCR, which is based on previous user input. In either case, the image signal is not prevented from being transmitted, and does not convey such information to the user. In fact, the menu or status display of Lownes is displayed **over the video image**. See *Lownes* at col. 5,

lines 22-43 and in Figs. 3B-3E, 5 and 6. Lownes neither discloses nor suggests “the message signal indicating that the image signal is prevented from being transmitted.”

Thus, although the device of Lownes may display the message “RECORD” on the display panel, over the image, when the digital VCR is recording, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Lownes that this message indicates that the image signal is prevented from being transmitted, as recited in claim 15. Further, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Lownes that this message is transmitted through a radio transmitter, as recited in claim 15. Finally, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Lownes of a selector subsection that is switched to send the image signal received from a second tuner to either a second receiver or a picture-recording device (e.g., VCR). Therefore, combining the message display of Lownes with the wireless system of Streck does not yield the invention as recited in claim 15.

Furthermore, Applicant respectfully submits that there is no motivation to combine these references as suggested in the Office Action. As noted above, Lownes is directed to a set top box connected to a digital VCR and a display device through a wired IEEE 1394 connection. Lownes includes no disclosure or suggestion regarding wireless image signal transmission or multiple tuners/receivers for viewing different programs simultaneously, which are the primary focus of Streck.

In addition, when an image signal of Streck is sent to a picture-recording device (e.g., a VCR), the image signal is not prevented from being transmitted to another tuner, and may even be transmitted through the VCR itself, if the VCR is equipped with dual wireless transmitting capability. *See Streck at col. 11, lines 63-67.* Thus, there is no need in Streck to display a message signal indicating that the image signal is prevented

from being transmitted when the image signal is sent from a second tuner section to a picture-recording device (e.g., VCR). Therefore, as previously stated, there is no motivation to combine the teachings of Streck and Lownes as suggested in the outstanding Office Action.

For at least these reasons, the Applicant submits that claim 15 is patentable over the cited combination of references. Claims 6 and 16 depend from claim 15 and as such, claims 6 and 16 are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 15, as well as for the additional subject matter therein.

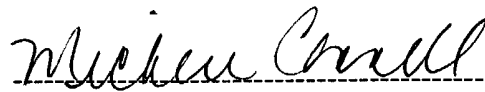
Conclusion

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that the claims now pending patentably distinguish the present invention from the cited references. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and an issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner determine that any further action is necessary to place this application into better form, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned representative at the number listed below.

In the event this paper is not considered to be timely filed, the Applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency or credit any overpayment associated with this communication to Deposit Account No. 01-2300, referring to client-matter number 107156-00018.

Respectfully submitted,
Arent Fox PLLC

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Michele Connell", written over a horizontal dashed line.

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